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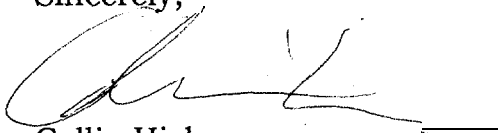
Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)  
Food and Drug Administration  
Docket #97N-0511  
5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061  
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305),

I am writing in response to the proposed legislation that would require mandatory pasteurization or radiation of all fresh juices. I am adamantly opposed to this proposal. I have been buying fresh juice for the past 10 years. Not only have I never had a health concern matter related to drinking fresh juice, but I actually consider fresh juice to be an important part of being healthy. Pasteurization kills many of the vital and active enzymes in fresh juices, thereby limiting their healthful potential. Last, but not least, fresh juice is far superior in taste to pasteurized juices.

If steps must be taken, I believe it should be to make the manufacturing process of making fresh juices more safe- not to eradicate the availability of fresh juices. It is probably poor manufacturing practices that led to the past few outbreaks of contaminated fresh juices. Also, with the plethora of products available for sale with warning labels because of known adverse effects (i.e. cigarettes, alcohol, etc.) it seems ironic that a very healthy product such as fresh juice would not at least be given the same option.

Sincerely,



Collin Hicks

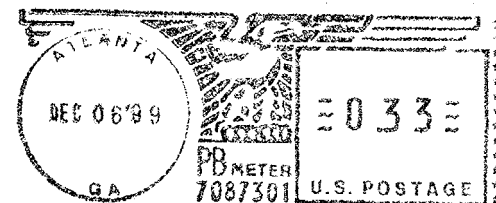
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DOCKET'S MANAGEMENT BRANCH (HFA-305)  
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION  
DOCKET # 97W-0511  
5630 FISHERS LANE, Rm. 1061  
ROCKVILLE

